

## PREVIEW

### *from The Canterbury Tales:* **The Prologue**

Geoffrey Chaucer

Translated by Nevill Coghill

**Summary** The author joins a group of pilgrims traveling toward the shrine at Canterbury. He describes in detail the people making the trip with him. The characters represent a cross-section of society. Among them are a knight and his son, who is a squire or knight's helper; a yeoman, who is a servant to the squire; a nun, accompanied by another nun and three priests; a well-dressed monk; a jolly friar, a member of a religious order; a merchant; a clergyman who is an impoverished student; and a number of others. They all agree to tell stories on the trip.



#### **Note-taking Guide**

Use this chart to list details about the characters.

Characters	Traits and Appearance
1. Knight	
2. Squire	
3. Yeoman	
4. Nun	
5. Monk	
6. Friar	
7. Merchant	
8. Oxford Cleric	